

On page 17, at line 13, change "arc" to -- are --

On page 19, at line 21, change "it's" to -- its --.

On page 20, at line 9, change "four" to -- five --.

On page 20, at line 14, delete "120".

On page 21, at line 5, change "abstract" to -- abstracts --.

On page 22, at line 25, change "ia" to -- is --.

On page 22, at line 28, change "ia" to -- is --.

On page 23, at line 28, change "Manger" to -- Manager --.

On page 23, at line 30, change "Manger" to -- Manager --.

On page 23, at line 31, change "Manger" to -- Manager --

IN THE CLAIMS

Amend claims 1-7 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for instantiating project models as instances of a process model to which they conform comprising [the steps of]

supporting the work [in] of the process by rendering said process models as elements of a computer-based system, and

supporting the work of the process by rendering said project models as elements of a computer-based system.

2. (Amended) A computer implemented method for modeling work processes comprising [the steps of]

instantiating a plurality of objects by abstract or concrete classes, and including at least a decision class and a data class,

relating each decision object to one or more data objects which it produces,

requiring, for at least one decision object, at least one data object as a prerequisite to its activation or completion, and

optionally generating additional subclasses or instances of said decision and data classes.

3. (Amended) The method of claim 2 further comprising [the step of] relating an arc or link class linking a first decision with a second decision.

4. (Amended) The method of claim 2 further comprising [the steps of] generating a decision role class specialized into at least two subclasses, each with differing behaviors, and

defining for each decision role class the communication requirements among the incumbents of roles participating in a decision, the rights of each such role class incumbents with respect to (a) entering data elements in a database, (b) modifying elements in a database and/or (c) reading elements from a database.

5. (Amended) A computer implemented method for traversing networks including nodes and directed arcs comprising [the steps of]

utilizing messaging between said nodes and arcs and collections of said arcs, and determining the membership of said collections by at least one of their entry nodes and exit nodes.

6. (Amended) A computer implemented method of modelling and managing work processes among a plurality of participants comprising [the steps of]

using a network whose nodes are abstract decision situations, and

providing arcs directed by decisions based on logical precedence.

7. (Amended) The method of claim 6 further comprising [the step of]
requiring nodes to support participation of multiple persons in
differentiated roles.

Add claims 8 – 13 as follows:

8. The method of claim 7, further comprising

requiring that incumbents of exactly one differentiated role make a choice
modeled by an abstract decision situation, and

requiring that the incumbents of a second differentiated role have notice, elapsed
time and access to the incumbent of the first role prior to the incumbent of said first role having
made said choice,

requiring that the incumbents of a third differentiated role have the opportunity to
inspect the results of the choice made by the incumbent of the first role after said choice, and to
accept or reject said results, with or without reference to established criteria, and

requiring that the incumbents of a fourth differentiated role have timely notice of
the results of the choice made by the incumbent of the first role after said choice.

9. The method of claim 8, further comprising

requiring that the incumbents of a fifth differentiated role have the opportunity to
inspect the results of the choice made by the incumbent of the first role after said choice, and to

accept or reject said results according to its conformance or non-conformance to established criteria.

10. The method of claim 1, further comprising

using said process models to instantiated project models, and

using said process and project models to manage, direct, and control the work of the process.

11. The method of claim 2 further comprising

providing an abstract rule class as a subclass of the data class,

providing that said abstract rule class is specialized into concrete classes that include at least a class whose instances completely determine the result by choosing from their associate decision objects, and

providing none or more additional concrete rule classes whose instances (i) determine the associated decision objects' requirement for some other specific data object, (ii) determine the associated decision objects' association with a specific role object, and/or (iii) determine the use of a different role object associated with said decision object.

12. A computer implemented method for instantiating project models as instances of a process model to which they conform comprising

providing an extensible, object-oriented framework for modeling processes, and

providing abstract and concrete classes as elements of said framework, whose objects map plural participants in the process.

13. A computer implemented method for traversing networks including nodes and directed arcs connecting said nodes comprising

initializing all direct arcs and arc collections with an inactive state,

activating an entry collection of directed arcs which share a common entry node upon completion of the entry node's function,

activating all members of said entry collection upon activation of said entry collection,

activating an exit collection of directed arcs which share a common exit node upon activation of any member of said exit collection, and

testing, upon activation of said exit collection, other members of said exit collection for said member's active/inactive state and if any member of said exit collection is inactive, then stop testing and return said exit collection to its inactive state, and otherwise, if all members have tested active, activate their common exit node.

REMARKS

Reexamination and reconsideration of the claims, as amended, are respectfully requested.

The Examiner (a) has rejected claims 2–7 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter, (b) has objected to claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, and (c) has rejected all of the



CLAIMS

1. A method for instantiating project models as instances of a process model to which they conform comprising

supporting the work of the process by rendering said process models as elements

5 of a computer-based system, and

supporting the work of the process by rendering said project models as elements

of a computer-based system.

2. A computer implemented method for modeling work processes

comprising

10 instantiating a plurality of objects by abstract or concrete classes, and including at least a decision class and a data class,

relating each decision object to one or more data objects which it produces,

requiring, for at least one decision object, at least one data object as a prerequisite

to its activation or completion, and

15 optionally generating additional subclasses or instances of said decision and data classes.

3. The method of claim 2 further comprising relating an arc or link class

linking a first decision with a second decision.

4. The method of claim 2 further comprising

20 generating a decision role class specialized into at least two subclasses, each with differing behaviors, and

defining for each decision role class the communication requirements among the

incumbents of roles participating in a decision, the rights of each such role class incumbents with

respect to (a) entering data elements in a database, (b) modifying elements in a database and/or
(c) reading elements from a database

5. A computer implemented method for traversing networks including nodes
and directed arcs comprising

5 utilizing messaging between said nodes and arcs and collections of said arcs, and
determining the membership of said collections by at least one of their entry
nodes and exit nodes.

6. A computer implemented method of modeling and managing work
processes among a plurality of participants comprising

10 using a network whose nodes are abstract decision situations, and
providing arcs directed by decisions based on logical precedence.

7. The method of claim 6 further comprising
requiring nodes to support participation of multiple persons in differentiated roles.

8. The method of claim 7, further comprising

15 requiring that incumbents of exactly one differentiated role make a choice
modeled by an abstract decision situation, and

requiring that the incumbents of a second differentiated role have notice, elapsed
time and access to the incumbent of the first role prior to the incumbent of said first role having
made said choice,

requiring that the incumbents of a third differentiated role have the opportunity to inspect the results of the choice made by the incumbent of the first role after said choice, and to accept or reject said results, with or without reference to established criteria, and

requiring that the incumbents of a fourth differentiated role have timely notice of
5 the results of the choice made by the incumbent of the first role after said choice.

9. The method of claim 8, further comprising

requiring that the incumbents of a fifth differentiated role have the opportunity to inspect the results of the choice made by the incumbent of the first role after said choice, and to accept or reject said results according to its conformance or non-conformance to established
10 criteria.

10. The method of claim 1, further comprising

using said process models to instantiated project models, and

using said process and project models to manage, direct, and control the work of
the process.

15 11. The method of claim 2 further comprising

providing an abstract rule class as a subclass of the data class,

providing that said abstract rule class is specialized into concrete classes that include at least a class whose instances completely determine the result by choosing from their associate decision objects, and

providing none or more additional concrete rule classes whose instances (i) determine the associated decision objects' requirement for some other specific data object, (ii) determine the associated decision objects' association with a specific role object, and/or (iii) determine the use of a different role object associated with said decision object.

5 12. A computer implemented method for instantiating project models as instances of a process model to which they conform comprising

providing an extensible, object-oriented framework for modeling processes, and

providing abstract and concrete classes as elements of said framework, whose objects map plural participants in the process.

10 13. A computer implemented method for traversing networks including nodes and directed arcs connecting said nodes comprising

initializing all direct arcs and arc collections with an inactive state,

activating an entry collection of directed arcs which share a common entry node upon completion of the entry node's function,

15 activating all members of said entry collection upon activation of said entry collection,

activating an exit collection of directed arcs which share a common exit node upon activation of any member of said exit collection, and

20 testing upon activation of said exit collection, other members of said exit collection for said member's active/inactive state and if any member of said exit collection is

inactive, then stop testing and return said exit collection to its inactive state, and otherwise, if all members have tested active, activate their common exit node.

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